

**Mobility Options Action Team**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**February 15, 2005**

<b>Attendance</b>	Kevin Wisselink, Erin Shelton, Rick Lyles, Wynell Brush (Sharon's new delegate from MDOT), Justin Sutton (The Hydrogen Superhighway), Pamela Hall (Michigan Office of Services to the Aging)
<b>Meeting Overview</b> (25 words or less)	Members reviewed information gathered on the Perceptions survey. We will talk with MDOT and Tri-County RPO about partnering on an implementation of the perceptions work. A presentation was given on the Inter State Traveler.
<b>Meeting Notes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome new members Wynell Brush and Justin Sutton</li><li>2. Review agenda and team goals We are putting together a survey instrument to see what people's perceptions of transit options are in the state of Michigan. We have focused on three areas: perception, gaps, and lack of funding for mobility options.  Perceptions: Data collection for perceptions of users and non-users of non-personal auto travel. We would like to do a pilot of the survey in one area to see how it works.  Gaps: Where there are gaps in the system.  Funding: We are working with the funding team to make sure that other options are adequately represented in the funding team. We are currently researching other groups in the state to see what other survey options are available to see what information is out there and what we can use.</li><li>3. Discuss how United We Ride fits into our effort UWR- State level work-group that is coordinating transportation services. They have received a grant to research from a consumer perspective on how to improve services. We presented our survey, and found that they wanted to focus on users and providers, but not worry about non-users. This means that we are not focusing on gaps. It is also focusing on specialized survey and not transit and public options. They are going to try and do a statewide survey. In December, UWR will complete their project. Yesterday's meeting- He was trying to solicit help from HHS as to how to go about getting survey done. That agency has a lot of experience in this area. Forums would focus on agencies, but the survey would focus on consumers.  Public Transit Agencies do surveys often- crossing boundary lines of counties and other issues. MDOT had a past program to assist agencies in getting service out of their normal service agency. The programs didn't survive because there wasn't demand for the service. Agencies are really wary of going out of funding area. Most do however because they have agreements with each other to do so. If it is routine change, they will work with an adjoining area's system.</li></ol>

#### 4. Other Business

Justin- The Hydrogen Superhighway

1995 originated, began studying public transit issues around the world.

Inspired by Atlas Shrugged, battle between communism and capitalism.

Have study regional transit long-range plans and figured out the best solution for the future.

The idea is to build out of stainless steel and covered with solar panels. It is self-sufficient with power. What can we do so people can have water, sewer, transportation, and communication? The philosophy for self-sufficient society is this system.

Check this out at [www.InterstateTraveler.us](http://www.InterstateTraveler.us), or contact Justin at [Justin@InterstateTraveler.us](mailto:Justin@InterstateTraveler.us).

#### **Action Items**

Determine the team's next steps

We can get the rider data with all of these surveys that already deal with that. Rick has contacted Tri County regional planning organization. We might want to pilot in the Lansing area to find a way to do the perception of non-users. Also, gap identification might be a good area to survey as well.

Once the survey is complete, what is the value of the information?

-It would show need, where survey is better than perception. No direct benefit, except that it supports the mission.

We are going to see if Tri-County Regional Planning Organization as well as M-DOT. Also, if we get funding, we might look at MSU for an in-kind match. The deadline is next month for 2006.

We also want to continue looking for survey instruments. Rick is going to pursue Tri-County, and Kevin is going to talk to MDOT

Funding meeting- we created a document regarding funding for mobility options. We are unsure if the funding team has met since the summit, but would like 2 to 3 people to attend those meetings to make sure that mobility options are considered as a funding issue.

#### **Proposed Agenda Topics For Next Meeting**

Our agenda is dependent on what we hear back from other agencies. If Tri-County is unwilling, we have to talk about what other options we want to explore. If they are interested, we need to figure out what direction we are going. Also, we need to talk to MDOT to see if we can get funding from them.

#### **Next Meeting Dates**

We also need to continue to find research materials from other agencies.

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

1:00-4:00 pm

CATA Board Room, 4615 Tranter Avenue, Lansing MI 48910